

## Northeast Renewable Energy Conference

Organizers: NE Sun Grant and Northeast Renewable Energy and Conservation Working Group\*

August 26 – 28, 2008

### Monday August 25

7- 9 pm Early bird reception and registration

### Tuesday August 26

7:30 am Continental Breakfast and registration

8:30 Welcome – Larry Walker, NE Sun Grant – Chair of NERA and/or NEED (TBD), supporting federal agencies

9:30 NE Sun Grant Competitive Funding Program – Summary of 2007 and 2008 awards and 2009 RFA – Tom Fretz

10:00 Break

10:30 Break-out session I

12:00 Lunch and poster viewing

1:30 Break-out session II

3:00 Break

3:30 Plenary session – Pennsylvania's Energy Initiatives (TBD)

4:30 Poster session and reception (piano, hors d'oeuvres, no-host bar)

6:30 Dinner - Dinner speaker

### Wednesday August 27

7:30 am Continental Breakfast and registration

8:00 Plenary Session - Economic development and financing – Focus on the challenges and opportunities

Speakers (sources): Government Funding, Carbon Credits, Venture Capital

Panelists (recipients): Farm, local business, high-tech start-up

10:00 Break

10:30 Break-out session III

12:00 Lunch and poster viewing

1:30 Break-out session IV

\*Represents the NE Directors of Cooperative Extension (NEED) and Agricultural Experiment Stations (NERA) and Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET)

3:00 Break

3:30 Break-out session V

5:00 Poster session and reception (piano, hors d'oeuvres, no-host bar)

6:30 Dinner – On your own

### Thursday August 28

7:30 am Continental Breakfast and registration

8:00 Plenary – Partnerships for Success (3 speakers)

Featured partnerships: industrial innovation, rural economic development, and environmental stewardship

9:30 Break

10:00 Break-out session VI – Planning for the future

12:00 Lunch and adjourn. Wrap up comments – Tom Richard

### Conference Format

Each 90 minute break-out session will include approximately 3 panelists, speaking approximately 20 minutes each including specific questions. A moderator will then facilitate a discussion to identify three critical opportunities, while a recorder takes notes. The "Energy Basics" mini-courses will be in lecture format, typically with one or two speakers. The final break out sessions will be planning sessions to integrate the previously identified opportunities and develop renewable energy roadmaps for the region. Follow up will include roadmaps and presentations posted on the web.

### Conference Planning Committee

Tom Richard (Penn State), Tom Fretz (NE Sun Grant), Mike Hoffman, Larry Walker and NE Sun Grant staff (Cornell), Steve Slack (OH) Dan Rossi (NERA), Doug Lantagne (NEED), Jim Vincent (CARET/NY), Hank Clark (CARET/ME), Steve Pueppke (MI), Rick Handley (NE Biomass Working Group), Vern Grubinger (NE SARE).

Conference Website:

<http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=fadbc930-c7ca-411d-a097-99f0ec8d564f>

Northeast Sun Grant Initiative:

<http://www.nesungrant.cornell.edu/>

Northeast Renewable Energy and Conservation Working Group:

<http://northeastenergy.umd.edu/>

## NE Renewable Energy Conference

The 2008 NE Renewable Energy Conference will showcase regional renewable energy and energy efficiency research, demonstration, and university-industry-government partnerships for sustainable economic development. There will be a mix of plenary and break out sessions, with posters prominently featured at breaks and receptions. We are currently soliciting posters – titles and abstracts can be submitted through the website indicated below. The conference planning committee is composed of conference chair Tom Richard (Penn State); Tom Fretz (NE Sun Grant); Mike Hoffman, Larry Walker and NE Sun Grant staff (Cornell); Steve Slack (Ohio State); Dan Rossi (NERA); Doug Lantagne (NEED); Jim Vincent (CARET/NY); Hank Clark (CARET/ME); Steve Pueppke (Michigan State); Rick Handley (NE Biomass Working Group); and Vern Grubinger (NE SARE). Sponsors include the Northeast Sun Grant Initiative, the Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, NE SARE, and several other companies and organizations.

### Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center

215 Innovation Blvd.  
 State College, PA 16803  
 Toll-Free: 800-233-7505  
 Phone: 814-863-5050  
 Fax: 814-863-5003  
 Website: [www.pshs.psu.edu](http://www.pshs.psu.edu)  
 E-Mail: [pshs@psu.edu](mailto:pshs@psu.edu)

A block of rooms has been reserved for the NE Renewable Energy Conference at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center for \$109/per night plus any applicable taxes. Please reserve your room by Friday, July 25. Reference that you are with the NE Renewable Energy Conference or Sun Grant Conference to assure the group rate.

Conference registration and additional information are available at <http://guest.event.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=fadbc930-c7ca-411d-a097-99f0ec8d564f>

### Breakout Session Program-at-a-Glance

| Break out Session | Bio-mass Conversion  | Biomass Production   | Wind, Hydro, Bio-products                | Economic Opportunities                              | Efficiency                               | Energy Basics                  |
|-------------------|--|--|--|---|--|--------------------------------|
| I                 | Feedstock Inventories  | Environmental Issues - Biomass                               | Hydro for the Northeast                  | Saving and Making Energy On the Farm                | Electricity Deregulation                 | Wind 101                       |
| II                | Biomass Heat and Power   | New crops and practices                                      | The Wind Resource                        | Recycling \$; Energy from organic wastes            | Integrated Systems for Energy Efficiency | Bio-mass 101 - Thermo-chemical |
| III               | Biodiesel  | Perennial Grasses  | Environmental Issues - Wind              | State and Federal policy incentives and constraints | LEED Building certification              | Solar 101                      |
| IV                | Thermo-chemical Fuel Conversions                                 | Biomass Handling and Logistics                               | Upwind, Down-wind Community Case Studies | Economic Development                                | Solar Opportunities                      | Bio-mass 102 - Bio-chemical    |
| V                 | Biochemical Fuel Conversions                                     | Forest Biomass   | Bioproducts - Steve Myers                | Community Opportunities                             | Utility Programs and partnerships        | Efficiency 101                 |
| VI                | NESGI - Revisiting the Roadmap for the NE - Conversion Processes | NESGI - Revisiting the Roadmap for the NE - Feedstock Supply | Tradewinds for the NE (Wind Energy)      | Retooling the trades (workforce development)        | Hitting the switch (for efficiency)      |                                |